



Push...Pull!

Youth Conservation workers were hard at work installing barrier posts Thursday at the Bull Prairie Recreation area, one of several projects planned for the Heppner Ranger District this summer. Using the saw were Valerie Slining, John Day and Tonya Thomas, Stanfield.

Youth Conservation Corps out working the national forest

The federal Youth Conservation Corps program is in its sixth year at Tupper Guard Station and the local director, Clair Klock, has arranged a number of projects with the cooperation of the Heppner Ranger District. Klock, a professional resource management educator for the Multnomah Education Service District, Salem, said the YCC program is contracted by the service district through the Ranger District and is currently threatened by a nationwide cutback. It was not one of those agencies listed President Carter's annual budget message to Congress.

Youth aged 15-18 will be working on a number of projects benefiting forest users of Umatilla National Forest. Corps members were installing wooden barriers to vehicular traffic Thursday at Bull Prairie and another group assigned to picking up litter. Later in the summer, they will be building a new foot bridge at the recreational area, constructing another fishing dock, picking up litter on the North Fork of the Dale Ranger District, undertaking campground maintenance on the Ukiah Ranger District, pre-commercial thinning of lodgepole pine, fencing off springs and doing right of way clearing for range fences.

"The Heppner Ranger District has been really helpful to give us a diversity of projects," Klock said.

To enter the program, youth from across the state submit applications to the Governor's Commission On Youth. What-

ever their income or social status, names are chosen at random for the Corp's 30 hour work week and ten hours of environmental awareness.

"It has a profound effect upon young people," Klock said, and to see the worth of their work is rewarding."

There are 28 youth and 8 staff members in this year's program. Crew leaders include Ken Olson, Steve Brown, Annie Johnston, Sandy Hayzelett, Sue Souders, a project coordinator, Rick Wittwer and the camp's cook, Martha Newman.

Because of the random lottery in which the youth are selected, there are people from all over the state, Rainier, Medford, Ashland and Hermiston. Andy Gorman, Heppner, is the only local youth and according to Klock, few Eastern Oregon natives apply.

The object of the environmental awareness program, Klock said, is to teach the youth why certain practices are done to protect the land's resources and the director personally sees the program as management education.

After the work week ends, the program's participants are taken on weekend field trips. This summer, the YCC will travel to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Steen's Mountain and Alvord Desert to learn about environmental resource programs. Other weekend trips are scheduled with backpacking in the Strawberry Mountains, a trip to the Elkhorns to see the gold country and

possibly a ghost town in the Dale District and a raft trip on the Deschutes River.

The students are not charged for the side trips but says Klock, "We demand a high standard of work as well as total production and safety."

There are also such projects as improving the fisheries on Wilson Creek by planting aspens and willows, completing three years of picnic ground developments on Penland Lake through slash-piling of trees destroyed by the mountain pine beetle.

With no television at Tupper and the long distance separating the guard station from Heppner, the casual observer might feel the YCC members would be bored. Not in the

least, says Klock, who has arranged speakers during the weeknights from the Forest Service.

The director thanked several people in the community for going out of their way to accommodate the 13 boys and 11 girls, specifically Rachel Harnett for opening up the Pioneer Museum after hours and the Heppner Pool Manager Dianne Holland for providing use of the pool for a swim test.

The youngsters receive \$2.90 per hour and are charged \$2 for lodging at Tupper.

Klock said some who have gone through the program have joined the Forest Service's seasonal force—one of the advantages he sees for continuing YCC.

Grasshoppers to meet demise from DC-4's with Malathion

Aerial spraying of almost 1.1 million acres of private rangeland in Central Oregon to combat the worst plague of grasshoppers in memory will begin early next week, according to Oregon Department of Agriculture officials.

Funded on a three-way basis, the project will encompass most Columbia Basin counties, and possibly might stretch to some other areas of central Oregon as well. Expenses for the massive spraying to kill the 'hoppers will be borne equally by the property owners, the State Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Oregon's commitment will be some \$470,000.

The air attack on the grasshoppers plaguing Morrow County began Tuesday with the spraying of Malathion by old DC-4's, according to Ken Goeden of the State Department of Agriculture. Goeden said the four DC-4's doing the spraying separated in pairs flying 150 feet from the ground and started at the south end of the county and was working north towards Heppner. The planes were expected to be in the Heppner area Wednesday and complete the county spraying by Friday.

Hundreds of bed sheets donated by such facilities as the Pendleton State Hospital have been scattered in a three county area to mark the boundaries of the areas to be served.

The planes flew in an east-west pattern and could be seen from the Sand Hollow Rd. and Gleason's Butte.

There have been several reports of grasshoppers growing so numerous that the hills were black.

Mrs. Bob McLaughlin, a resident 25 miles southeast of Heppner on the Heppner-Pilot Rock highway, displayed pictures of grasshoppers covering an old tire and said they were climbing up fence posts.

"The perfect conditions for grasshopper survival this spring have created a situation which could have serious economic and environmental

consequences to Oregon's range and agricultural acreages east of the Cascades, unless we are quick and effective at controlling the plague of grasshoppers," said Agriculture Director Leonard Kunzman.

Spraying through aerial applications of Malathion—a general use insecticide—is scheduled to begin either Tuesday (June 26) or the day after.

In most cases, four-engine aircraft such as the DC-6 will be used. Each of those large aircraft is capable of treating 25,000 acres a day.

In instances where terrain and other conditions affecting flying require different aerial techniques, a smaller type of aircraft will be used.

The spray projects as currently envisioned will affect the following counties and acreages amounts: Morrow County, 285,800 acres; Umatilla County, 150,000 acres; Wheeler County, 164,000 acres; Grant County, 150,000 acres; Gilliam County, 120,000 acres and Wasco County, 75,000 acres.

The Imnaha area currently has 150,000 acres severely infested with the grasshoppers and a spray program may take place there. Sections of

Crook and Jefferson counties are being watched closely as well.

Kunzman said that special efforts are being made to advise all commercial beekeepers in all the spray areas to remove their colonies before spraying takes place. He added that if pilots and official observers of the spray operations see any beehives on the ground, spraying in that zone will not take place until the colonies are moved. Beekeepers having questions regarding this program are encouraged to contact their local ASCS or county agent's office or the State Department of Agriculture.

Applications of the chemical are at what is officially termed as "ultra-low volume", which amounts to eight ounces of compound per acre.

The treatment with Malathion is the safest and most effective measure available at present to control grasshoppers. When one calculates that 8 grasshoppers per square yard can consume as much as an adult steer on an acre by acre basis and when you realize that in some areas grasshoppers exceed 200 per square yard, we have a situation which warrants aerial application of a safe insecticide," Kunzman said.

Big game hunting rules available

Printed regulations for 1979 deer, elk and silver grey squirrel hunting have been mailed to license agents all over the state by the Fish and Wildlife Department and should be available at most outlets. So should the application cards needed for all controlled hunts.

This year three separate publications have been combined into one. The Controlled Hunt Regulations (printed last year in newspaper format), General Big Game Regulations (in booklet form last year) and Management Unit maps with unit boundary descriptions, have all been printed this year in a single 8-page newspaper format.

In appearance the regulations look like last year's controlled hunt regulations flyer. The decision to consolidate everything in one newspaper publication was made for several reasons.

This format allows the regulations to be printed and distributed quickly, just like your newspaper. Last year the controlled hunt regulations were available soon after they were set by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. But the general season regulations, set at the same time, were not distributed to license agents until well into July because of the more time consuming printing process dictated by the booklet form. The unit maps were, in the past, reprinted every few years as needed.

Juveniles sought in cabin thefts

Two local juveniles are being sought in Washington State by the Morrow County Sheriff's Department in connection with break-ins at mountain cabins.

On June 14, Charlene Papi-neau reported her cabin at Ditch Creek was burglarized with tape players, jack, blankets and household utensils stolen. A second break-in theft was reported at a cabin on the Blake ranch on the north fork of Willow Creek. The cabin is owned by Robert C. Burbank, Milwaukie, Ore.

Reported stolen by Earl Blake, a neighbor, were 22

shells, rifle scope, binoculars, fishing pole and reel, sabre saw and four bottles of liquor. Unconnected with those cases was a report on June 22 that the night lights had been shot out at the Pacific Gas Transmission Substation in Lone.

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County levy passes

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Heppner, voters cast 348 yes votes and 234 no's; in Lexington, there were 72 yes votes and 48 no's; Lone polls received 134 yes votes and 51 no's; the Irrigon voting tally was 50 yes votes and 104 no's. Boardman voters cast 74 yes and 130 no votes.

The fiscal year for operation of the hospital and Boardman clinic ends Sunday, July 1 and hospital board members have expressed concern that if the hospital vote failed to come up with the needed majority in the second levy election, it might have no funds to operate.

However, County Judge D.O. Nelson said recently if either of the budgets failed, the court could ask permission of the County Assessor to resubmit the levy to a third vote.

The hospital levy request has never been defeated in a second levy election in the same year and has only been included on a separate ballot measure since 1978.



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